

CHAPTER 91

DISTRICT-TO-COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM AND FACILITIES SHARING PILOT PROGRAM

S.F. 424

AN ACT establishing a district-to-community college program and facilities sharing pilot program.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. DISTRICT-TO-COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM AND FACILITIES SHARING PILOT PROGRAM. A consortium of not less than four school districts and a community college may request approval from the department of education for a district-to-community college program and facilities sharing pilot program. The pilot program shall include one community college whose average annual increase in joint enrollment over the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2009, was between 20 and 21 percent, and not less than four contiguous school districts, each of which had a kindergarten through grade twelve certified enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year of not less than six hundred pupils nor more than eight hundred pupils. All participants in the consortium shall be located within thirty miles of two cities and a state university. Each school district wishing to participate in a consortium shall, not less than twenty days prior to requesting approval from the department of education, hold a public hearing on the question of participation in the proposed consortium. The school district shall publish a notice of the public hearing and a statement of the school district's intent to participate in the consortium in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. In addition to the date, time, and location of the hearing, the notice shall include a description of the consortium's proposed efforts and a description of the funding to be used by the proposed consortium. Notwithstanding the requirement that a school district have exclusive jurisdiction in all matters within the territory of the school district under section 274.1, the limitation on joint buildings under section 28E.41, and the expenditure requirements of section 298.3, the participating school district boards may enter into joint contracts for the construction or lease of buildings, using funds accumulated under the physical plant and equipment levy in section 298.2. Buildings constructed or leased pursuant to this section shall be used primarily for providing community college courses under a district-to-community college sharing agreement entered into by each of the school districts and the community college pursuant to section 257.11, subsection 3. Each consortium participating in the pilot program shall submit a report to the general assembly and the department of education on or before January 1, 2014. The report shall include but shall not be limited to a summary of the consortium's efforts, the consortium's findings and conclusions relating to the operations of the consortium, information relating to measureable outcomes of student achievement and access to coursework within the consortium, and recommendations related to the continuation, modification, or expansion of the pilot program authorized in this section.

Approved April 27, 2011